

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (cancelled).

2. (currently amended) An electric power steering apparatus, ~~according to claim 1,~~ comprising:

a steering shaft having an upper end to which a steering wheel is fitted;

a steering column rotatably supporting said steering shaft, tilting about a pivot as a fulcrum and moving telescopically together with said steering shaft in axial directions;

an electric assist motor unit attached to said steering column and serving for a steering assist of said steering wheel; and

tilt/telescopic adjustment means for fixing said steering column in a tilt-adjusted angular position and fixing said steering column in a telescopically adjusted axial-directional position,

wherein said pivot is disposed between said electric motor unit and said tilt/telescopic adjustment means, and
above ~~more upwards than~~ said steering shaft.

3. (new) An electric power steering apparatus, comprising:

a steering shaft having an upper end to which a steering wheel is fitted;

a steering column rotatably supporting said steering shaft, said steering column being tiltable about a pivot and movable telescopically together with said steering shaft in axial directions;

an electric assist motor unit attached to said steering column and providing a steering assist for said steering wheel; and

a tilt/telescopic adjustment mechanism operable to adjustably fix tilt and telescopic positions of said steering column,

wherein said pivot is disposed between said electric motor unit and said tilt/telescopic adjustment mechanism, and above said steering shaft.